NEWS

Winchester residents head to Shannon Beach to beat the heat

RACHEL WHITEHOUSE | CORRESPONDENT

May 24, 2024 . 6:00 AM — 2 min read

Winchester residents relax in the hot weather at Shannon Beach, which officially opens May 25, but was open during 90 plus heat. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/RACHEL WHITEHOUSE

It's going to be a hot one this Memorial Day weekend, with temp
forecast in the high 70s and low 80s.

Subscribe

Winchester residents looking to beat the heat might check out the new facilities at the popular Shannon Beach on the Upper Mystics Lakes, which opens May 25 with lifeguard coverage at the designated swimming area.

Formerly known as Sandy Beach, the beach was renamed in 2008 for the late state Sen. Charles E. Shannon, who represented the area for nearly 15 years until his passing in 2005.

Subscribe

Winchester residents enjoy a warm evening at Shannon Beach. WINCHESTER NEWS STAFF PHOTO/RACHEL WHITEHOUSE

According to the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), there will be lifeguard coverage only on weekends and holidays until June 14. June 15 marks the start of lifeguard coverage seven days a week, which continues through Aug. 18. The swimming area closes for the summer on Sept. 2.

Water safety in the area and especially at the Mystic Lakes State Park remains a concern for the DCR. In recent years, there have been several drownings of teens and adults at the Mystic Lakes, including one each in July of 2023, 2022 and 2019.

Last June, DCR opened a new Shannon Beach Bathhouse. The net-zero and fully accessible facility includes modern restrooms, a family restroom and outdoor rinse stations. An extensive field, a new playground, picnic areas, and walking trails surround the area.

According to DCR, the beach is now universally accessible, with accessible paths from parking to the beach and the adjacent shoreline picnic grove. Beach wheelchairs are also available at Shannon Beach.

Subscribe

The DCR last June opened the Shannon Beach Bathhouse for resident use. COURTESY PHOTO/DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND RECREATIONr

The facility is designed to meet climate resiliency, ecology, and energy efficiency goals, using solar panels and battery storage that achieve net-zero emissions. The building also includes all LED lighting, low flow plumbing fixtures, and de-stratification fans that will reduce energy consumption, minimize water consumption, and improve indoor air quality.

Winchester News is a non-profit organization supported by our community. If you appreciate having local Winchester news, please donate to support our work, and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Related

Subscribe

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

NEWS

Rep. Michael Day helps House colleagues pass sweeping energy affordability bill

The following was submitted by the Office of Rep. Michael S. Day: Rep. Michael S. Day and his colleagues in the House of Representatives recently passed energy affordability legislation that would result in over $9 billion in savings for utility ratepayers over the next 10 years. The bill maintains critical

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester gun owners face new training rules starting April 2

Public safety data How Winchester compares on firearms licenses in comparable Massachusetts communities Active licenses

NEWS

Sen. Jason Lewis, Mass. Senate strengthen fair housing protections for rente

Subscribe

The following was submitted by the Office of Sen. Jason Lewis: State Sen. Jason Lewis

as of Jan. 25, 2025 — Source: Massachusetts Criminal History Systems Board License to carry firearms Firearms identification card Winchester and Marblehead are the focus communities. Peers selected based on comparable population size, demographics and suburban

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

joined his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate to pass legislation that protects residents from discrimination in the housing market as the Trump administration abandons its enforcement of the federal Fair Housing Act. Illegal discrimination continues

March 3, 2026

Latest

EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

WILL DOWD | STAFF WRITER
March 4, 2026

Subscribe

FEATURES

‘Chicago: Teen Edition’ dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester High School presents “Chicago: Teen Edition,” a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents ‘Syldason: You Are Welcome Here’

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

WINCHESTER NEWS
A TRUSTED AND RELIABLE SOURCE OF LOCAL NEWS

Subscribe to Winchester News

Subscribe

© 2026 Winchester News Group, Inc. Copying and sharing with permission for non-commercial use only.

Subscribe